

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN MET IN
REGULAR SESSION IN THE COMMISSIONERS’ ROOM OF THE CRAVEN
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN,
NORTH CAROLINA ON MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2005. THE MEETING
CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman George N. Brown, Jr.
Vice Chairman Perry L. Morris
Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen
Commissioner Bill Harper
Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Commissioner M. Renée Sisk
Commissioner Leon C. Staton

STAFF PRESENT:

Harold Blizzard, County Manager
George B. Sawyer, Assistant County Manager
Ray H. Moser, Human Resources Director
Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
James R. Sugg, County Attorney

Following an invocation by Commissioner Allen and the Pledge of Allegiance,
Commissioner Sisk moved to approve minutes of May 16, 2005 regular session,
seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Tax Releases and Refunds

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, submitted the following tax releases
and refunds for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Sisk moved for their approval,
seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
ANDERSON, JAMES L DID NOT OWN 01/01/2002	2002-0001070	\$7.66
ANDERSON, JAMES L DID NOT OWN 01/01/2003	2003-0001093	\$6.71
ANDERSON, JAMES L NOT LOCATED IN CRAVEN CO. 01/01/2004	2004-0001054	\$6.94
BARROW, THOMAS & SUSAN DOUBLE LISTED WITH ACCT #39940	2001-00025736	\$276.85
CARTER, CASEY 2 RECYCLE FEES CHARGED IN ERROR S/B 1 FEE ONLY	2003-0008223	\$36.48
CARTER, CASEY 2 RECYCLE FEES CHARGED IN ERROR S/B 1 FEE ONLY	2004-0008324	\$33.60
CARTER, SUSAN R DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0008440	\$73.73

EDWARDS, ROBERT ODELL VACANT PROPERTY	2003-0015099	\$36.48
EDWARDS, ROBERT ODELL VACANT PROPERTY	2004-0015363	\$33.60
IPOCK, DALE DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0026108	\$26.53
IPOCK, DALE DID NOT OWN 01/01/2002	2003-0025676	\$30.32
JONES, BRENDA C DID NOT OWN 01/01/1999	1999-0025718	\$217.43
JONES, BRENDA C DID NOT OWN 01/01/2000	2000-0026435	\$195.63
JONES, BRENDA C DID NOT OWN 01/01/2001	2001-0026664	\$193.45
JONES, BRENDA C DID NOT OWN 01/01/2002	2002-0026993	\$168.93
JONES, BRENDA C DID NOT OWN 01/01/2003	2003-0027184	\$146.88
LUCAS, ROBERT F & HOLLY UNCOLLECTABLE TAX – ROBERT DECEASED 6/10/2002	2003-0031343	\$51.20
LUCAS, ROBERT F & HOLLY UNCOLLECTABLE TAX – ROBERT DECEASED 6/10/2002	2004-0031844	\$46.21
WALLACE, STEVEN WILLIAM DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0052870	\$67.95

19 – CREDIT MEMO (S) \$1,656.58

Refund

CARTER, CASEY 2 RECYCLE FEES CHARGED IN ERROR S/B ONLY 1 FEE	2002-0008183	\$32.94
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1 – REFUND \$32.94

Subdivisions for Approval

Craven County Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, submitted the following subdivisions for the Board's approval. Commissioner Sisk moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Aurora Road Property – Final: The property, owned by Summerfield Land Company, Inc. and engineered by Robert Chiles Engineering, is located with Twp. 2 off of SR 1003 (Aurora Road). The subdivision contains 4 lots on 4.9 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval.

Neuse Point East Phase V – Final: The property, owned by J.M. Stallings and O.L. Humphries and surveyed by Strickland Surveying, is located within Twp. 5 off of Lemonwood Drive. The subdivision contains 8 lots on 5.9 acres and is proposed to be served by community water and individual septic systems. The Planning Board reviewed and recommended the subdivision for final approval.

Military Family Resolution

The Board was requested to adopt the following resolution recognizing the family of Staff Sergeant Paul Armstrong as Military Family of the Quarter. Commissioner Sisk moved for the adoption of the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE FAMILY OF
STAFF SERGEANT PAUL E. ARMSTRONG
AS MILITARY FAMILY OF THE QUARTER**

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Paul E. Armstrong is attached to Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Naval Air Depot Cherry Point as a Fleet Readiness Action Group Fleet Liaison, where he serves with distinction; and

WHEREAS, SSgt Armstrong and his wife, Audrey M. Armstrong, are contributing members of the community through numerous activities at Unity Christian Church in New Bern and the New Bern Area Soccer Association; and

WHEREAS, SSgt Armstrong volunteers as a Sunday School Teacher, organizing and preparing for various age groups, and holds the position of Education Chairperson of his church, with duties that include organizing Vacation Bible School; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Armstrong volunteers as church secretary and children's church leader; and

WHEREAS, both of the Armstrongs are active with the soccer activities of two of their children, SSgt Armstrong serving as assistant coach and Mrs. Armstrong volunteering in many capacities as soccer mom.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Craven County Board of Commissioners salutes Staff Sergeant Paul E. Armstrong, his wife Audrey M. Armstrong, and their four children, Abigail, Ronald, Alexander and Theron for having been selected as Military Family of the Quarter, and commends the Armstrong family for their contributions to the local community.

Adopted this 6th day of June, 2005.

National Incident Management System Proclamation

Emergency Services Director, Stanley Kite, requested that the Board adopt the following proclamation indicating Craven County's adoption of the National Incident Management System. Commissioner Sisk moved for adoption of the proclamation, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**PROCLAMATION FOR ADOPTION OF
NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS)
BY THE CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, the President in Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5, directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS), which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity; and

WHEREAS, the collective input and guidance from all Federal, State, local, and tribal homeland security partners has been, and will continue to be, vital to the development, effective implementation, and utilization of a comprehensive NIMS; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and desirable that all Federal, State, local, and tribal emergency agencies and personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest levels of incident management; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management it is critical that Federal, State, local, and tribal organizations utilize standardized terminology; standardized organizational structures; interoperable communications; consolidated action plans; unified command structures; uniform personnel qualification standards; uniform standards for planning, training, and exercising; comprehensive resource management; and designated incident facilities during emergencies or disasters; and

WHEREAS, the NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communications, facilities, and resources will improve the State’s ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local and state agency readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management processes; and

WHEREAS, the Incident Command System components of NIMS are already an integral part of various incident management activities throughout the State, including current emergency management training programs; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Emergency Response Commission, by unanimous vote, formally endorses the National Incident Management System for use in incident management and emergency prevention, preparedness, training, response, recovery, and mitigation programs and activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Craven County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the Craven County standard for incident management for its use in daily operations, as well as disaster operations in Craven County.

Adopted this 6th day of June, 2005.

Budget Amendments and Ordinance Update

Craven County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendments and ordinance update for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Sisk moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Health/Maternity

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-5700-349-14-00 State Revenue	\$1,199	101-5700-440-40-00 Contractual Services	\$1,199
TOTAL	\$1,199	TOTAL	\$1,199

Justification: Additional state funding available for Maternal Serum Screening testing.

DSS 7291 Mand.

101-7291-349-10-00 Day Care Combined	\$145,000	101-7291-450-39-26 Day Care Combined	\$145,000
TOTAL	\$145,000	TOTAL	\$145,000

Justification: Additional subsidy funds received from the Division of Child Development. All funds are 100% reimbursed, no County match.

Convention Center

101-8201-357-75-00 Space	\$2,000	101-8201-430-98-16 Reserve	\$38,350
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101-8201-357-08-00	\$1,350	101-8201-430-23-00	\$11,500
Copies/Faxes		Utilities	
101-8201-357-08-00	\$40,190	101-8201-430-32-23	\$2,250
Catering Comm		Coffee Break	
101-8201-335-15-00	\$(1,700)	101-8201-430-32-11	\$1,500
Concession		Laundry Dry Cleaning	
101-8201-357-74-00	\$23,000	101-8201-430-32-21	\$300
Coffee Break		Rebillable	
101-8201-357-78-00	\$4,680	101-8201-430-20-00	\$4,000
Service Break		Postage	
101-8201-357-79-00	\$12,000	101-8201-430-26-02	\$1,000
Audiovisual		M/R equip	
101-8201-357-84-00	\$(500)	101-8201-430-26-01	\$890
Event Personnel		M/R Grounds	
101-8201-357-13-00	(2,000)	101-8201-430-27-00	\$4,000
Rebillable		Advertising	
101-8201-357-85-00	\$400	101-8201-430-32-02	\$1,250
Telephone Income		Info Tech Exp	
101-8201-335-00-00	\$800	101-8201-430-32-07	\$1,200
Misc Spring, Pepsi		Janitorial	
101-8201-357-73-00	\$1,000	101-8201-430-40-00	\$13,880
Catering Contract		Cont Ser	
		101-8201-430-73-21	\$500
		Walkie Talkie	
		101-8201-430-32-40	\$600
		Other Supplies	
TOTAL	\$81,220.00	TOTAL	\$81,220.00

Justification: Budget additional projected revenue to cover convention center costs through year end with \$38,350 being transferred to reserve.

7:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPERTY CONVEYANCE

At 7:03 p.m. Commissioner Sampson moved to go into public hearing concerning conveyance of County property at the Industrial Park, as advertised, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried. Arey Grady of the County Attorney's office explained the proposed conveyance by sale to Southern Apex Holdings, LLC in the amount of \$92,250 for a 3.69 acre parcel at \$25,000 per acre. He indicated that approval of a resolution to convey the property would be needed following the public hearing. The following citizens spoke:

Herb Rawls of 3813 Old Cherry Point Road, expressed objection to the County bestowing property upon a private entity. He stated that he would rather see the property put up for auction after being advertised. There were no additional speakers from the public and at 7:08 p.m. Commissioner Sampson moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried. Commissioner Sampson moved to adopt the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVING SALE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 158-7.1(a), local governments, including Craven County (hereinafter "County"), are authorized:

[T]o make appropriations for the purposes of aiding and encouraging the location of manufacturing enterprises, making industrial surveys and locating industrial and commercial plants in or near such city or in the county; encouraging the building of

railroads or other purposes which, in the discretion of the governing body of the city or of the county commissioners of the county, will increase the population, taxable property, agricultural industries and business prospects of any city or county. These appropriations may be funded by the levy of property taxes pursuant to [G.S. 153A-149](#) and [160A-209](#) and by the allocation of other revenues whose use is not otherwise restricted by law.

Furthermore, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 158-7.1(d) also permits local governments, including County, to convey property held for industrial or commercial use after notice to the public, a public hearing, the determination of the fair market value of the interest to be conveyed and a determination of the probably hourly wage to be paid by the prospective industry; and,

WHEREAS, County has received from **SOUTHERN APEX HOLDINGS, LLC** (hereinafter “Southern”), a limited liability company organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of North Carolina, an offer to purchase for the sum of Ninety Two Thousand Two Hundred Fifty and no/100 Dollars (\$92,250.00) the following real property:

All of that certain tract or parcel of land lying and being situate in Number Eight (8) Township, Craven County, North, Carolina and being more particularly described as follows:

All of that certain tract or parcel containing +/- 3.69 acres and being all of Lot 29 as depicted on a map entitled “Final Plat for the Craven County Economic Development Commission of the Craven County Industrial Park,” dated May 16, 2000, prepared by the East Group, and recorded in Plat Cabinet G, Slide 103C, in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Craven County, reference being hereby made to said map for a more accurate, detailed and precise description of the aforesaid tract.

Southern intends to utilize the aforesaid real property for the manufacture and distribution of commercial/industrial grade petroleum products; and,

WHEREAS, County has determined that the probable hourly average wage to be paid by Southern to its employees to be employed at the facility hereinabove described is \$15.00 for a weekly average hourly wage of \$600.00 and that the fair market value of the property to be conveyed is Twenty-five Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$25,000.00) an acre, for a total value of Ninety two thousand two hundred fifty and no/100 Dollars (\$92,250.00); and,

WHEREAS, County has determined that the sale to Southern of the tract of land herein described for the consideration herein referenced will stimulate the local economy, promote business, and result in the creation of a substantial number of jobs; and,

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2005 and after proper public notice, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 158-7.1 the Board of Commissioners for County held a public hearing concerning its intent to sale to Southern the real property hereinabove described; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of County does desire to convey and sale to Southern the real property hereinabove described, for the consideration herein stated, and does further desire that this RESOLUTION serve as a memorial of the actions taken by the Board of Commissioners on this matter.

Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows:

1. That the sale of real property as hereinabove described is hereby approved.
2. That County shall execute and deliver such documents and instruments as may be necessary in the opinion of counsel to County to accomplish the purposes herein stated, including but not limited to the execution and delivery of the deed attached hereto as exhibit A.
3. That the Chairman, Clerk to the Board, Manager and such other officers and agents of County are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in the opinion of counsel to County to effectuate any of the transactions contemplated herein.
4. That this RESOLUTION be entered in the official minutes of the Board of Commissioners of County and that the Clerk to the Board certify copies of this RESOLUTION as may be necessary in the opinion of counsel to County.

This the 6th day of June, 2005.

7:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING ON FY 05-06 BUDGET

At 7:09 p.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to go into public hearing on the proposed FY 2005-2006 Craven County Budget, as advertised, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried. The following citizens spoke:

Herb Rawls of 3813 Old Cherry Point Road, New Bern, stated that the proposed tax rate increase is unconscionable and objected to giving anything to businesses and non-profit organizations.

C.W. White of Old Landfill Road in Vanceboro expressed the opinion that the tax rate should be going down because the tax base continues to grow in Craven County. He objected to a rate increase, stating that the elderly are getting taxed out of their homes.

Pat Naumann of 41 Gables Road, New Bern, spoke on behalf of the Craven Arts Council and thanked the Board for its support over the years. She outlined programs that have been supported as a result of the County's funding and asked that the County continue to support the Arts Council.

Ernie Richardson, President of Swiss Bear, spoke on behalf of Swiss Bear stating that two-thirds of the funds that allow the agency to operate are raised from Mum Fest; however, the agency is heavily reliant upon the City and the County for its success. He asked that the Board continue to support Swiss Bear.

At 7:30 p.m., there being no additional speakers, Commissioner Sisk moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Janice Parys had requested to come before the Board to present a petition; however, she was not present. She had requested that the Board support the petition of Carolina Pines residents to have D.O.T consider an additional access to the subdivision. Commissioner Allen, speaking on her behalf, asked the Board to direct staff to draft a resolution to the Department of Transportation asking that they evaluate an additional entrance to Carolina Pines. Commissioner Allen moved to direct staff accordingly, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried.

Rufus Carter addressed the Board concerning loud music and the objectionable language in the music played on the roadways in the Harlowe area. He stated that the Sheriff's Department has been unsuccessful in addressing the problem because they do not arrive before the perpetrators disperse. He stated there is no respect for church services, the elderly and schools, and asked that the County intensify its efforts through the Noise Ordinance and penalties.

APPOINTMENTS

Eastern Carolina Regional Housing Authority

The Board considered a request from the Eastern Carolina Regional Housing Authority that Arlene Clifton, whose term is expiring, be reappointed. Commissioner Allen nominated Ms. Clifton for reappointment. Commissioner Sisk moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried, with Ms. Clifton being appointed by acclamation.

Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee

The Board was advised that the terms of Bernard White, Bobby Baker, Ronnie Andrews and Cathy Warmack are due to expire on June 30th and that Ms. Warmack was eligible for reappointment; however, Mr. White, Mr. Baker and Mr. Andrews were not. In addition, the Board was advised that Mr. Hillman George, representing Township 5, had resigned and considered a recommendation that Mr. Theron McCabe be appointed to complete the unexpired term. The Board considered recommendations from the Recreation Advisory Committee for filling the vacancies and Commissioner Sampson nominated Charles Fisher of Township 8 to replace Bernard White. Commissioner Staton moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Harper, with Mr. Fisher being appointed by acclamation. Commissioner Morris moved that the Township Two appointment to replace Bobby Baker be deferred, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried. Commissioner Staton nominated Theron McCabe to replace Hillman George in Township Five. Commissioner Sampson moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried, with Mr. McCabe being appointed by acclamation. Commissioner Morris nominated John Williams as an at large appointee to replace Ronnie Andrews. Commissioner Sampson moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Morris, with Mr. Williams being appointed by acclamation. Commissioner Brown moved to approve the request to reappoint Cathy Warmack, seconded by Commissioner Sisk and unanimously carried.

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board

Commissioner Allen moved to defer an appointment to replace Mr. Joe Greaser as a representative of organized labor on the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

ABC Board

The Board was advised that the term of Mr. William Brinkley is due to expire. Commissioner Morris moved to reappoint Mr. Brinkley, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried.

Craven Community College Board of Trustees

Commissioner Staton moved to reappoint Earl Wright to another term on the Craven Community College Board of Trustees, seconded by Commissioner Harper. There being no additional nominees, Earl Wright was reappointed by acclamation.

LITTLE SWIFT CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ACQUISITION

Emergency Services Director, Stanley Kite, appeared on behalf of the Little Swift Creek Volunteer Fire Department to request the Board's endorsement of the department's intent to purchase a new E-One Pumper Tanker with a 1250 pump and a 1,000 gallon tank. He

advised the Board that the purchase price is \$164,000, with the department paying \$30,000 down and financing \$134,000 at an interest rate of 4.28% for 7 years. There is no fire tax increase proposed in order to execute this purchase. Commissioner Allen moved to endorse the proposed purchase, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Request for Closed Session

County Attorney, Jim Sugg, indicated that he would need a closed session concerning pending litigation involving a tax appeal pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3).

At 7:53 p.m. Commissioner Morris moved to go into closed session, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried.

At 9:05 p.m. the Board returned to regular session. Attorney Sugg announced that the Board had discussed the appeal of a decision by the North Carolina Property Tax Commission relative to Woodmen of the World and the New Bern Shrine Club. He indicated that the Board had reached consensus to follow the ruling of the Property Tax Commission and to forego an appeal to the North Carolina Court of Appeals due to cost factors.

Resolution Regarding Private Negotiation and Sale of a House Valued at less than \$30,000 on Airport Property

Mr. Sugg presented the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by motion of Commissioner Morris and a second by Commissioner Harper.

RESOLUTION OF CRAVEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING PRIVATE NEGOTIATIONS AND SALE OF A DWELLING HOUSE VALUED AT LESS THAN \$30,000.00

WHEREAS, Craven County ("County") is the owner of a parcel of land located at the Craven County Regional Airport ("Airport") which parcel known and referred to as 700 Clermont Road and is more particularly described as Tract 087, on a map entitled "Survey for Craven County Regional Airport" prepared by Suitt & Associates, P.A., and recorded on July 11, 2001, in Plat Cabinet G, Slide 121-C in the office of the Register of Deeds of Craven County, North Carolina (hereinafter "Airport Real Property").

WHEREAS, a double wide mobile home which has been permanently affixed to the real estate (hereinafter "Improvements") is located on the Airport Real Property.

WHEREAS, the Airport Real Property and Improvements were acquired by the Craven County Regional Airport Authority ("Airport Authority") for the purpose of Airport expansion;

WHEREAS, the Airport Authority wishes to sever the Improvements from the Airport Real Property and sell the improvements separate from the Airport Real Property;

WHEREAS, the Improvements located on the Airport Real Property have been determined by the County and the Airport Authority to be surplus property; and N.C. Gen Stat. §160A-266 authorizes the private negotiation and sale of the property; and

WHEREAS, the County adopts this resolution to secure for the County the fair market value of the personal property and to accomplish the efficient disposal of the same. The County authorizes the Airport Authority to set its fair market value and to convey title to the property in accordance with this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE,

1. The property being disposed of consists of a double wide mobile home (Improvements) located on the Airport Real Property.

2. The Improvements shall be severed from the Airport Real Property and shall become personal property subject to transfer by Bill of Sale.

3. The Airport Real Property shall be retained by the County and the Airport Authority and shall be used for Airport expansion.

4. The Airport Authority shall maintain such records as generally describe the Improvements and to whom they were sold, and the amount of money or other consideration received for said sale of the Improvements in accordance with the provisions of N.C. Gen Stat. §160A-266.

5. This resolution shall be published in the *Sun Journal* one (1) time ten (10) days prior to the date set for sale by private sale.

This the 6th day of June, 2005.

Hospital Board Appointment

Mr. Sugg clarified his position regarding the vote on the appointment to the Hospital Board of Commissioners at an earlier meeting, at which time he advised that Commissioner Sampson should be excused from voting on the appointment. He stated that the Institute of Government had reported that there was no reason for Commissioner Sampson's abstention and that his voting would not have constituted a conflict of interest.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

New Bern Riverfront Convention Center Award

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, advised the Board that the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center had received several awards at a recent convention of the North Carolina Association of Convention and Visitor's Bureaus. The awards were given to recognize destinations for marketing achievements through the year. Over 150 submissions were judged by industry professionals. The Craven County Convention and Visitor's Centers gold awards included leisure travel advertisement, group tour advertisement and the recently completed web-site image library. In addition, Sales and Services Representative, Tarshi McCoy, received the North Carolina Society of Government Meeting Professionals Supplier of the Year Award. The North Carolina Society of Government Meeting Professionals selects one supplier annually from hotels, convention and visitor's bureaus, meeting facilities, caterers and others that consistently provide outstanding services and support to government meeting professionals.

Budget Study Session

Mr. Blizzard requested that the Board schedule a time to adjourn to reconvene in budget study session. The Board reached consensus to schedule the session for Wednesday, June 15th at 9:00 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Harper announced that the Wayne County Manager had requested a meeting with the Global Transpark Commission on June 21st at 2:30 p.m. to discuss questions. He stated that he would be in attendance.

Commissioner Sampson shared a plaque received for the Humanitarian Award from the New Bernian Foundation. The recognition was shared with his wife, Ethel Sampson. He reported on the CETC Conference, which was recently held in Louisiana, and stated that there were special concerns expressed during the conference relative to disabled citizens, especially disabled veterans.

Commissioner Sisk congratulated recent graduates and noted the anniversary of the Normandy invasion in honor of those who participated.

Commissioner Staton requested consideration of appropriating County computers that are declared surplus to Township 5 for use at the Harlowe Community Center for instructional purposes. The County Manager indicated that he would discuss the request with the County's Information Technology Director to see what is possible.

Commissioner Allen advised the Board that the Havelock Chamber of Commerce would be conducting its annual awards installation banquet on June 24th and encouraged other Commissioners to attend. He also advised the Board that the Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow would be organizing a bus trip to Charlotte on June 28th to address the BRAC Commission.

Commissioner Brown also spoke in honor of those who participated in the Normandy invasion in 1945.

At 9:40 p.m. Commissioner Allen moved to adjourn to reconvene on June 15th at 9:00 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

Chairman George N. Brown, Jr.
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board